MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 NOVEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Interception of U.S. Planes — Syrian air defenses "intercepted" four U.S. F-14 aircraft overflying Syrian positions in Lebanon early on 10 November and "forced them to return toward the sea," a Syrian military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Damascus radio.

Other Developments — Another commander of the Israeli-sponsored national guard was shot and seriously injured in the south, IDF Radio announced. Meanwhile, the IDF allowed Lebanese vehicles to pass northward across the Al-Awwali River bridges but prevented vehicles from entering from the north, the radio noted.

PLO Affairs

Cease-Fire, Military Situation — A cease-fire between the warring factions in northern Lebanon came into effect at 1600 GMT on 9 November, according to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, cited by AFP. Beirut radio reported several violations on the morning of 10 November, while 'Arafat loyalist forces inside Al-Baddawi cited by AFP alleged that the camp came under sporadic shelling throughout the evening of 9 November.

Before the cease-fire came into effect a "fierce battle" raged around the Al-Baddawi camp, which also came under heavy shellfire from the combined Syrian, Libyan, and dissident forces, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. AFP cited the Al-Baddawi commander as stating that the dissident forces had been pushed back from the outskirts of the camp as far as the nearby Tripoli refinery. The agency added that newsmen visiting the camp saw that it was entirely in 'Arafat loyalist hands. On the other hand, Damascus radio reported that a press delegation had visited positions controlled by the dissident forces that included the outskirts of the Al-Baddawi camp and the hills surrounding Tripoli.

Military commanders of the dissident forces cited by Beirut radio maintained that their forces would not enter or shell Tripoli, even in pursuit of pro-'Arafat forces, but the radio later reported that shells were falling in Tripoli "indiscriminately." The radio also quoted one of the dissident commanders as saying that the refinery had been shelled not by dissident forces but by pro-'Arafat forces who hoped the resultant fires and heavy smoke would provide cover for their movements.

Contacts With Syria — Soviet leaders sent a telegram to the Syrian leadership asking it to "take swift action" to end the fighting and declaring that the USSR would "not accept any justification for continuing the present situation regardless of the reasons for the dispute," the London daily *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* reported. Radio Monte Carlo stated that the Soviets have started "intensive contacts" with Syria to end the battles, adding that a Soviet official recently told Palestinian officials in Tunis that the USSR supports "PLO unity under Yasir 'Arafat's leadership." Meanwhile, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received the Algerian minister of information and culture, who delivered a message on the Palestinian issue from President Chadli Bendjedid, Damascus radio reported. In Paris, the Syrian ambassador to France, together with the Libyan charge d'affaires, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and informed that France "condemns" the Syrian and Libyan "direct intervention" in Tripoli, Paris radio revealed.

Fatah Conference — A conference of Fatah regional directors, representatives, and secretaries ended in Tunis on 9 November, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Conference recommendations advise the Fatah Central Committee to "adopt necessary measures" to confront the Syrian regime and "its partner" Libya and retaliate for their "sabotage and crimes" against the Palestinian people; to expose Arab "collusion" and silence on what is happening in northern Lebanon, as well as attempts to interpret these events as "internal fratricide"; to observe closely the dissident "clique" once it has been completely expelled from Fatah; and to issue a comprehensive political statement explaining the "expected political dangers" threatening the Palestinian struggle, whether from dissident forces or those "preparing to launch policies hostile" to the Palestinian people, "particularly in Jordan and the occupied land." The conference political statement, which was broadcast by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio, charged that the Syrian and Libyan regimes "resorted to stabbing our movement in the back and tried to destroy it."

GCC Summit

The GCC summit meeting in Qatar issued a final statement calling for an end to both the Iran-Iraq war and the fighting in the "Palestinian arena." Demanding an immediate end to hostilities in the Gulf, the GCC leaders urged Iran to respond positively to the UN Security Council resolution in this respect and not threaten freedom of navigation in the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz. Noting the GCC's intensive diplomatic efforts to secure a cease-fire in northern Lebanon, the statement expressed hope that all parties will observe the cease-fire and called for resolution of the PLO's internal differences through constitutional and legal channels. The statement, which was read by the GCC Secretary General at the end of the Supreme Council session live on Doha television, also noted the GCC leaders' satisfacton with the progress of military coordination among member states.

At a press conference broadcast by Doha radio, Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Ahmad revealed that the conferees had discussed in detail Iranian threats to close the Strait of Hormuz and had adopted "precautions and measures to safeguard the security and safety of the GCC states." He also noted that Saudi and Kuwaiti efforts to mediate the Syrian-Iraqi dispute are still under way.

Jordan

Disposal experts defused a time bomb found near the Saudi Airlines office in Amman, according to Amman radio. Earlier, in a speech broadcast by the radio, King Husayn warned those responsible for recent attacks on Jordanian diplomats and guards in foreign capitals that Jordan will retaliate in kind. The "instruments of the plot" are deluded if they think Jordan is unable to "return the harm and cut off the hand which harbors intrigue and evil for it," the king stated. He also blamed the fighting in northern Lebanon on "the hand of treason and treachery which is aimed against the legitimacy of the PLO" and called on the Arab majority to cease remaining the prisoner of the minority under the "worn-out and broken down" pretext of Arab unanimity.

Israel

Arens, Shamir Interviews — Israel will "probably" extend Israeli law to the administered territories if it becomes apparent that the autonomy plan cannot be implemented, Defense Minister Moshe Arens stated in a *STERN* interview reported by Jerusalem radio. Arens reaffirmed his view that Syria was behind the bomb attack on the IDF building in Tyre. Meanwhile, In a Jerusalem television interview, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said Israel expressed hope that more Israeli soldiers will be withdrawn from Lebanon "in the near future." Defending the Lebanon action as "essential, from all aspects," Shamir said Israel had to eliminate the PLO "ministate" in Lebanon, which was a terrible danger, albeit "not so much military as political." He also warned that Israel must be on its guard against the danger posed by Syria's military buildup.

Call-up Exercise — Jerusalem radio broadcast the code names of units involved in the call-up exercise on 9 November and announced the following morning that the exercise was over.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 219 *10 November 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Daily Cited on Iran's Use of Afghan Refugees *[HAQIQAT-E ENQELABE SAWR]* ..... C 1
Mujahidin Actions in Qandahar, Parwan Noted *[Karachi]* ..... C 1
'Counterrevolutionaries' Surrender ..... C 1
Briefs: DRA-MPR Youth Protocol ..... C 1

INDIA

Gandhi Warns Against Mixing Religion, Politics ..... E 1
Denies Interference Charges ..... E 1
Spokesman on 'Concern' Over Palestinian Rift ..... E 1
Official Views Topics for Commonwealth Summit ..... E 1
Report on Parthasarathy Mission to Colombo ..... E 1
Ambassador Avoids Ziaul Haq Dinner in Gilgit ..... E 2
Soviet Heavy Industry Minister Arrives 10 Nov ..... E 2
Envoy Says India To Launch FRG Satellite ..... E 2
TIMES OF INDIA on 'Aggression' in Grenada *[31 Oct]* ..... E 2
Briefs: GDR Trade Protocol ..... E 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

BANGLADESH

Bhutanese Foreign Minister Arrives 8 November ..... G 1
Doha Meeting ..... G 1

SRI LANKA

AFP: Colombo Airport Alerted to Would-Be Assassin ..... G 1

IRAN

Defense Minister Comments on Hormuz Closure ..... I 1
Strengthened Khark Defenses Reportedly Sought *[Free Voice of Iran]* ..... I 1
AFP Reports Negotiation With UK for Planes ..... I 1
Commentary Views GCC Summit, Gulf War ..... I 1
Paris Cites 'Discriminatory Measures' Against French ..... I 3
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,537 ..... I 3
JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI Criticizes Nehzat-e Azadi *[27 Oct]* ..... I 3
Radio Iran: Bazargan Opens New Office ..... I 4
National Resistance Council Announces Plan *[Radio Iran]* ..... I 4
Two Drug Smugglers Executed in Mashhad ..... I 4
Clandestine Radios Report on Executions ..... I 4
Radio Iran: Journalists ..... I 4
Free Voice of Iran: Mullahs ..... I 5
Montazeri Cited on Sunni Clergy Training *[Free Voice of Iran]* ..... I 5
MKO Describes Peshmerga Victories in Kordestan *[Free Voice of Iran]* ..... I 5
9 November Statement *[Free Voice of Iran]* ..... I 5
NVOI Decries 'Discrimmination' Against Kurds ..... I 5
Agriculture Minister Departs for Rome Meeting ..... I 6
Reportage on Officials' Meetings With SFRY Delegation ..... I 6

Foreign Affairs Ministry ..... I 6
Prime Minister ..... I 6
TANJUG Account ..... I 6
Montazeri, Musavi Discuss Economic Situation ..... I 7
Regional Groups Depart for Battlefronts ..... I 7
Tabriz Students ..... I 7
Shiraz Returnees ..... I 7

Daily Cited on Iran's Use of Afghan Refugees

LD100719 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] Kabul, November 9 BAKHTAR — Daily *HAQIQAT-E ENQELABE SAWR* rebuts the myths created by Western propaganda around the so-called Afghan refugees in Iran.

The Western news media, the newspaper writes, try to give an impression as if emigration of Afghans to Iran is allegedly due to the victory of national and democratic April revolution. These slanderous allegation, the newspaper emphasizes, are absolutely contrary to the fact.

The majority of these Afghans had crossed over to Iran during the prerevolutionary time when the despotic monarchical regime ruled.

The main reason behind their escape was their desire to get rid of extreme poverty and unemployment. They went there and were employed in industrial enterprises at considerably lower rate of wages as compared with the same class of Iranian workers.

The Iranian authorities use all kinds of discriminations against Afghans such as payment of higher prices for consumers goods or issuing of identification cards to them against donating their blood to the Iranian authorities.

Meanwhile, the article goes on, the Afghan counterrevolutionaries are also committing various crimes such as smuggling of narcotics to Iran and outside of Iran. Statistics published in Iranian press reveal that Afghan fugitives constitute 32 per cent of the smugglers in Iran.

It is to be recalled, the newspaper adds, that the Iranian ruling circles give military training to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, arm them and send them to Afghanistan for committing all sorts of bestial actions.

The ruling circles of Iran have two main objectives for instigating Afghans against the DRA. Firstly, to use the manpower of Afghan fugitives in the war against Iraq and secondly to attract the world public opinion to the so-called refugees problem and thus to receive in their name huge financial aid from the Western countries including the U.S. imperialism, the newspaper concludes.

Mujahidin Actions in Qandahar, Parwan Noted

BK1008l6 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] According to reports received from Afghanistan, mujahidin in two separate actions killed many Soviet-Karmal soldiers in Qandahar during the last week of October. During these actions, many tanks and personnel carrier vehicles were destroyed or damaged. In Parwan Province, a clash has been reported, during which many Soviet-Karmal soldiers were either killed or injured.

'Counterrevolutionaries' Surrender

LD060612 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Kabul, nov 5, BAKHTAR — A forty-six member group of counterrevolutionaires with their ringleader surrendered themselves with their weapons to the revolutionary government in Kabul Province.

The group which availed of the general amnesty was headed by Mohammad Aisa and belonged to so-called Jamiat-e Islami in Pakistan. They operated in Mir Bachchen Kut District of Kabul Province.

Briefs

DRA-MPR Youth Protocol — Kabul, Nov 5, BAKHTAR — A protocol on friendship and cooperation between the youth organizations of the DRA and the Mongolian People's Republic for 1984-85 was signed here today. According to this protocol friendly and fraternal relations between the Democratic Organization of Afghanistan Youth and Union of Revolutionary Youth of Mongolia will further consolidate and expand. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 6 Nov 83 LD]

Gandhi Warns Against Mixing Religion, Politics

BK090959 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Mrs Gandhi has deplored the attempts to mix religion with politics. Addressing the conference of northwest regional Congress-I workers at Kurukshetra in Haryana, she strongly criticized the move in some quarters which might lead to further division of the country.

Mrs Gandhi cautioned the people against certain outside quarters giving support to the agitation in the country in order to weaken and destabilize it. She said there is unprecedented attack on the country through continuous false propaganda by certain vested interests inside and outside the country. Such interests are maligning the Congress-I Party because it stands for the unity and the integrity of the country. Mrs Gandhi regretted that there is lack of awareness among the younger generation about the struggle for independence. She underlined the need for removal of corruption and indiscipline in bureaucracy.

Referring to the Punjab issue, Mrs Gandhi said the agitation there is getting support from outside and a false picture of the issues is being projected. She said the problem in Punjab can be solved through negotiations.

Mrs Gandhi made it clear that the center does not want to remove any chief minister in the non-Congress-I states, but she criticized the alleged malpractices indulged by the ruling party in Jammu and Kashmir during the elections.

Denies Interference Charges

BK091644 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The Congress-I president, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has warned the people of dangerous developments taking place across our border which are posing a threat to the country. Addressing a public meeting and the northwest regional conference of Congress-I workers in Kurukshetra, Haryana, today, she said some countries are accusing India of interfering in the internal affairs of neighboring countries.

Mrs Gandhi pointed out that while India has never attacked any country, we have been victims of aggression in the past. In this context, she called upon the people to remain united and disciplined.

Mrs Gandhi said attempts are also being made to create an atmosphere in which people of all religions may feel that their religions are in danger. She said it is the government's policy to see that all religions flourish.

Spokesman on 'Concern' Over Palestinian Rift

BK091603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] India has expressed deep concern over continuing differences among the Palestinian freedom fighters leading to bloodshed and loss of precious lives. An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that India and the entire Nonaligned Movement have consistently supported the just cause of the Palestinians and their struggle for self-determination and an independent state.

Replying to questions by newsmen, the spokesman said it is imperative for the national liberation movement of the Palestinian people to remain united and to devote all their efforts and energies toward the attainment of their cherished goal. Any division in their ranks will only give comfort to their enemies.

Official Views Topics for Commonwealth Summit

BK091616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Issues of peace, security, and disarmament and the deepening international economic crisis are to figure at the Commonwealth summit opening in New Delhi on the 23d of this month. Outlining the agenda of the summit at a news conference in New Delhi today, Mr Natwar Singh, secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, said the Commonwealth leaders will be surveying major political developments and also review the world economic situation.

In reply to a question, he said the invasion of Grenada by outside forces is bound to come up during the debate on international affairs.

In the economic sphere, the discussion will revolve mainly round the report of the experts group set up by the Commonwealth. It will be a unique opportunity for an exchange of views on intricate economic issues because while most of the countries to the Commonwealth belong to the developing world, Australia, Britain, Canada, and New Zealand represent the affluent countries. Out of the 44 members of the Commonwealth, 39 have already intimated to India that they will be represented by their heads of state or government at the summit.

Report on Parthasarathy Mission to Colombo

BK091627 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] The opposition leader in the Sri Lanka Parliament, Mr Bandaranaike, today called on Mrs Gandhi's special envoy, Mr G. Parthasarathy, in Colombo. Mr Bandaranaike was accompanied by some of his party colleagues. Mr Parthasarathy also met leaders representing various interest. No details of the talks are available.

Quoting informed sources, the government-controlled newspaper *DAILY NEWS* reported that distinct progress has been made in several areas, including language, university admission, land distribution and employment.

The Lok Dal has expressed satisfaction over the resumption of the Parthasarathy mission in Sri Lanka. A resolution adopted by the party's national executive, which began a 2-day meeting in New Delhi today, hoped that the efforts would lead to a way out of the present situation.

Condemning the U.S. invasion of Grenada, the executive demanded that the aggression be vacated forthwith. It also criticized the Government of India's stand on Afghanistan.

Another resolution said the recent Vishwa Hindi Sanmellan [World Hindi Conference] highlighted the failure of the government to give Hindi the rightful place as enjoyed by the Constitution.

Ambassador Avoids Ziaul Haq Dinner in Gilgit

BK1009000 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] The Indian ambassador to Pakistan, Mr K.D. Sharma, stayed away from a dinner hosted by President Ziaul Haq at Gilgit in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir for foreign envoys based in Islamabad. A spokesman of the Indian Embassy said Mr Sharma declined the invitation because of India's principal policy that Gilgit had always been a part of Jammu and Kashmir State.

Soviet Heavy Industry Minister Arrives 10 Nov

BK1009006 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] The Soviet minister for heavy industry, Mr N.V. Goldin, arrived in New Delhi today on a 10-day visit to this country. Shortly after arrival, he called on the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi.

Mr Goldin, who is the president of the Soviet-Indian Friendship Society, will take part in a series of functions being organized by the society in connection with the 66th anniversary of the October Revolution. He will also visit Bombay, Calcutta, and Patna.

Envoy Says India To Launch FRG Satellite

BK0711305 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0846 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] India is to send a West German satellite into space aboard an indigenous rocket next year. West German Ambassador Rolf Ramisch said this in New Delhi. He said India has agreed to launch his country's satellite into space free of cost.

TIMES OF INDIA on 'Aggression' in Grenada

BK0411236 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 31 Oct 83 p 8

[Editorial: "Lies Upon Lies"]

[Text] By heaping lies upon lies President Reagan has disgraced the United States. It was a lie that so grave a threat had arisen to the lives of American citizens in Grenada as to justify an invasion of that little island. It is a lie that the Soviet Union and Cuba had established a base there and that a "Cuban occupation of the island had been planned." The first lie could not bear the briefest scrutiny. For no American citizen in Grenada had been harmed. And assuming that the lives of U.S. nationals were in danger, why were other east Caribbean puppet governments invited to participate in the invasion? The second lie is equally unfounded. There is not the slightest evidence to suggest either that the Soviet Union and Cuba were acting in concert in Grenada, or that their rulers are so stupid as to have believed that they could get away with a base on an island so close to the United States. Havana has said that the arms stacks the U.S. claims to have discovered in Grenada have been planted by the U.S. itself. Such an act on the part of some American agency is not beyond the realm of possibility. But let us suppose that some small arms of Soviet manufacture have indeed been found on the island. What does it prove? That the Russians or the Cubans or both were planning to convert it into a base for operations in the region? The proposition is too ridiculous to merit consideration.

Mr Reagan is, of course, not the first American president to indulge in such mendacity in order to justify aggression. President Johnson invented the Tonkin Bay incident — an alleged attack by North Vietnamese on a U.S. ship — in the sixties so that he could bamboozle Congress into giving him powers which he could abuse to wage an undeclared war on that country. Nor is it the first time that an American Administration has sought to justify an invasion of a sovereign member of the United Nations in the name of "defence of freedom". The attack on the Dominican Republic was explained in similar terms. In the past Washington could deceive a large number of people who took its protestations of concern for liberty at their face value. Today it cannot deceive any self-respecting individual or government. The debate in the U.N. Security Council establishes that point. But the invasion and the debate also show that the United States recognises no law and that there is no international organisation or rival power or combination of powers which can compel it to behave. U.S. administrations in the past have in the final analysis been restrained by public opinion at home and that public opinion has asserted itself only when the cost of a particular aggression has risen to an unacceptable level as in Vietnam. But it does not follow that the rest of the world has no choice but to acquiesce in whatever Washington decides to do. We must continue to raise our voice against its interventions and acts of blatant aggression.

Briefs

GDR Trade Protocol — India and the German Democratic Republic have agreed to expand and diversify their trade. The projection for the next year represents a 10 percent increase in trade turnover. It is expected to be about 3.3 billion rupees, with exports from India at 1.66 billion and imports of about 1.64 billion rupees. A protocol for this was signed in New Delhi today. India's export to the GDR includes cotton and jute textiles, minerals, and leather and leather products. The imports include fertilizer, steel products, machine tools, and cinematographic films. India and the GDR have annual trade agreements. The payment is made in rupee. Under the annual agreement, the exports and imports are to balance over a period of time. The current agreement, which is ratified annually, is for a period of 5 years beginning from January 1981. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Nov 83 BK]

BANGLADESH

Bhutanese Foreign Minister Arrives 8 November

BK081155 Dhaka BSS in English 0640 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 8 BSS — Bhutanese foreign minister, Mr. Dawa Tsering, arrived here today on a four-day official visit to Bangladesh.

Mr Tsering, during his stay in the capital, will have formal talks with his Bangladeshi counterpart, Mr A.R. Shamsud Doha, on bilateral and regional matters and international issues of common concern. The Bhutanese minister's itinerary includes a call on the president of the Council of Ministers, Lt. Gen. H.M. Ershad, president of the republic, Mr Justice Ahsanuddin Chowdhury, and other government leaders.

The Bhutanese foreign minister, who was accompanied by his wife, was received by Mr Doha at the airport. He will place a wreath at the National Mausoleum a few miles from the capital and visit the port city of Chittagong.

Doha Meeting

BK091243 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1100 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Formal talks between Bangladesh and Bhutan were held in Dhaka this morning. Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha led the Bangladesh side at the talks while the Bhutanese side was led by visiting Bhutanese Foreign Minister Dawa Tsering. The talks lasted more than 1 hour. They discussed bilateral and regional cooperation and international issues. The two ministers reviewed the development programs in their countries and both sides agreed to further expand cooperation between Bangladesh and Bhutan. Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha was assisted among others by Foreign Secretary Ataul Karim and the director general of external (?directorate) and ambassador designate to Bhutan, Mahbubul Alam at the talks. The Bhutanese foreign minister was assisted among others by director of the Trade Department, (Kaser) Wangchuk).

SRI LANKA

AFP: Colombo Airport Alerted to Would-Be Assassin

BK100714 Hong Kong AFP in English 0705 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] Colombo, Nov 10 (AFP) — Colombo's international airport was alerted late yesterday to a would-be assassin of U.S. President Ronald Reagan who is expected to pass through Sri Lanka on his way to a southeast Asian destination, the *DAILY MIRROR* said today. The alert was the result of intelligence reports sent from Seoul, South Korea, yesterday. The reports said the would-be assassin, believed to be about 66 years old, with brown eyes and hair and of medium height, was hoping to make his attempt during President Reagan's current Asian tour.

All airlines operating through Colombo were placed on an alert to watch for the suspected "hit man," the report said.

Defense Minister Comments on Hormuz Closure

GF091552 Tehran IRNA in English 1530 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 9 IRNA — The policy of the Islamic Republic is that if the slightest aggression is carried out against the interests of the Iranian people in the azure waters of the Persian Gulf we will disrupt its security, Defense Minister Colonel Mohammad Salimi was quoted by today's issue of the Persian daily *KEYHAN* as saying.

Colonel Salimi, who was speaking in a military ceremony in Urumiyeh, added that it was not necessary to reveal how the Islamic Republic will close the Strait of Hormuz when necessary but said that it was very simple and very practical.

He said the Strait of Hormuz with its special situation is by itself our biggest defensive element in the region.

Speaking in a morning military ceremony of the 64th Urumiyeh Army Division, Colonel Salimi said that with the huge propaganda unleashed for the Super Etendard planes the world powers meant to distract Iran's attention from the fronts to its southern waters. But, he said, the powerful Val Fajr-4 operation was such a slap in their face that made them tremble.

Strengthened Khark Defenses Reportedly Sought

GF091830 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] According to a report by the correspondent of the Free Voice of Iran, following the growing Iraqi attacks on targets inside Iran and renewed Iraqi threats to bombard Khark Island and its oil installations, Captain Esfandiyar Hoseyni, who was appointed commander of the Navy of the mullah regime after the detention and imprisonment of Captain Afsari, paid another visit to the oil installations on Khark Island and the naval airbase of Bushehr, and issued new instructions to face the Iraqi attacks on these installations.

The correspondent of the Free Voice of Iran, quoting reliable sources in Tehran, said Capt Hoseyni, in a secret meeting with Ruhollah Khomeyni yesterday, submitted a detailed report on the defense forces stationed in Bushehr and Khark Island. He asked that these forces be strengthened. It is said that following the submission of this military report to Ruhollah Khomeyni, the intensity of attacks on the war fronts have been ordered softened in order to strengthen the naval force close to the oil installations on Khark Island and to find ways and means to defend them against Iraqi missile attacks.

AFP Reports Negotiation With UK for Planes

NC101125 Paris AFP in English 1034 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] Beirut, Nov 10 (AFP) — Iran has been negotiating secretly with the British government for the purchase of Anglo-French designed Jaguar fighters, *AS-SAFIR* newspaper reported here today.

The Iranians feel that the Jaguar would restore military balance after the recent delivery of French Super Etendard fighter-bombers to Iraq, its opponent in a three-year-old conflict, *AS-SAFIR* said.

The talks could end in a deal because of warmer Anglo-Iranian relations, the report said, citing diplomatic sources.

Tehran has not involved Britain in recent bitter attacks on the United States and France, and British trade with Iran rose by 40 percent over the first six months of 1983, the sources noted.

The Jaguar is a joint production by the French company Breguet-Dassault and British aircraft. It is designed as a tactical assault and ground-attack aircraft, with a speed of mach 1.6 or 1,060 miles (1,700 kms) per hour, and can be fuelled in the air.

Commentary Views GCC Summit, Gulf War

GF090856 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0455 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Unattributed commentary: "GCC Leaders Summit in Qatar"]

[Excerpts] The conference of the heads of GCC nations began in Doha 2 days ago. Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE formed the council 3 years ago and they will obviously be discussing the important issues of the Persian Gulf and the Middle East region. When the six countries announced their intention to form a council, the Islamic Republic of Iran announced it would support any cooperation and unity among these countries in order to solve the real problems blocking the way of progress for the peoples of the Muslim countries of the Persian Gulf and their well-being and hoped that the council would always adhere to the principle of independence and avoid permitting foreign forces to intervene in the affairs of the Persian Gulf. However, such an approval for the GCC by our country is subject to conditions clearly outlined in the foreign policy of the system of the Islamic Republic. The most important part of this is the expansion of Islamic and friendly ties between the countries of the Persian Gulf region including our own country. Accordingly, any time the GCC wishes to reach a decision that affects the destiny of the region then it has to remember that the entire council's membership is on the southern shores of the Persian Gulf and that Iran is the biggest and most powerful country of the region and this fact should be borne in mind when making such decisions.

Before the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, all the countries of the Persian Gulf region feared the defunct shah as the gendarme of U.S. imperialism and also because they were weak both in population and in government and military organizations. Many of them were repeatedly the target of the lust of Saddam's regime. As an example, the fascist regime of Iraq not only considered Kuwait's Bubiyan Island but that entire country part of Iraq for a long time. It also has not resolved its border disputes with Saudi Arabia for a long time. Following the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran which totally destroyed the myth of U.S. imperialism and after the birth of an Islamic system in our country, it was expected that the countries of the Persian

Gulf region, considering the regional and religious similarities, would reach very good results. [sentence as heard]

Unfortunately though, U.S. imperialism, using Saddam whose aggressive nature is apparent to all the countries of the region, imposed a war on our country which still continues. The regime of Saddam in this period has reached the precipice many times to the extent that it had but several days left for its dishonored survival. However, the financial aid given by the GCC members managed to forcibly keep this nearly dead thing on its feet. It is obvious to everyone that the regime of Saddam committed an act of aggression against our country in September 1980 and it is also clear to everyone that the countries of the southern part of the Persian Gulf have so far spent around $40 billion of their public funds to aid Saddam. Therefore, even though the Islamic Republic of Iran has been witnessing the daily aid — in truth, Saddam's blackmail — by the shaykhs of the region and even though it was obvious that these countries had indirectly entered the war through financial aid to the Baghdad regime, Iran has continued to favor patience. This is because our country and our system of government believes that it is going to be more capable of offering a new system as an example to the world in a calm and peaceful atmosphere. On this basis, irrespective of the indirect participation of the GCC in the imposed war, Iran has extended its hand in friendship and brotherhood toward this council in order to avoid the expansion of the imposed war and further damage to the peoples of the region.

Unfortunately, the GCC in its foreign policy thus far has acted to the greatest advantage of U.S. imperialism. We are a country that believes that among the present governments of the world, aside for a few, the rest either oppose us or are at least not in favor of us. This does not matter to us. What matters to us is that we believe the Lord is with us and so is the hearts of the Muslim peoples of the region.

When the Iraqi regime falsely announced that it has retreated to its own borders, the same GCC governments, some openly and some not so openly, agreed that Saddam started the war and has now become a peace-lover. Their current aid to the Iraqi regime and their propaganda for the false peace-loving attitude of Saddam has deafened the world. However, our cities continue to be under the attack of Saddam's rockets and each time Saddam's army is dealt another grave blow, he bloodies another group of our civilians. Now that the Islamic forces have carried out the successful Val-Fajr operations to put out the fires created by Saddam, the very same governments, even though they agreed that the Baghdad regime started the imposed war, are trying to portray us as the guilty party.

It is surprising to us why the GCC governments are trying so hard to tie their own destiny, more so each day, to the diminishing existence of the deteriorating and ugly regime of Saddam? Are they not aware that, impossible as it sounds, had Saddam been victorious in the war then aggression would have become legitimized in his mind and then none of the countries of the region including the GCC members would have had a peaceful night due to Saddam's aggressiveness?

What meaning can King Fahd's message to Saddam 2 nights ago and on the eve of the fourth session of the council, concerning support for the Iraqi regime have? Why don't they defend the just position? Why do they drown themselves more and more in the false idea of helping the criminal Saddam? As we have repeatedly said, our country is strongly against any expansion of the war in the Persian Gulf. However, U.S. imperialism which has become frightened of the certain fall of its mercenary Saddam is trying to prove, through extensive propaganda and an intensification of the psychological war, that the Islamic Republic of Iran wants to expand the war and risk the economic resources of the countries of the region. The Socialist French Government, which has fallen into a trap due to its adventurism, has taken the lead in this respect, announcing that it will give the Iraqi regime Super Etendard aircraft. We have repeatedly announced that our main issue is not the delivery of aircraft to Iraq. Even though this issue will be noted in the shameful chapter of the history dealing with the supporters of Saddam, the important issue to us is the attempts by U.S. imperialism and the French Government to set the entire region on fire and create chaos in order to prevent the collapse of Saddam's regime.

Propaganda monopolies have started a concentrated effort in this respect to falsely portray the position of the officials of our country. They say that Iran is afraid of the Super Etendards and will close the Strait of Hormuz if they are delivered. The GCC is well aware of whether these aircraft have reached Iraq. The Strait of Hormuz is still open, however, and the ships carrying arms to the aggressive regime of Iraq continue to pass through it and enter ports of the GCC member countries so that their contents can be transported to Iraq on land. As we announced before and we say it again: If the economic and oil interests of our country are threatened to such an extent that our economic security is endangered and we are forced to our limits, then we would be forced to do something contrary to our wishes. U.S. imperialism is trying to create an excuse for itself through the intensification of propaganda and the psychological war in order to directly and openly bring its forces into the Persian Gulf. If that happens, Islamic Iran has nothing to lose. We are used to fighting the United States and have no fear of directly facing the soldiers of the U.S. Army. And so if this occurs, the ones who will suffer the most will be the other countries on the region and the GCC members.

The threats made by the ruling roup of U.S. imperialism concerning a military intervention in the Persian Gulf, the tour by military delegations of the U.S. Defense Department to Bahrain and Kuwait, and the latest stationing of 600 U.S. Marines in Dubayy are to whose advantage? Are they enough to save Saddam? No, they will only serve to put the independence of the GCC member countries in serious jeopardy. U.S. imperialism, having resorted to trickery, managed to prepare the ground for its military presence in Lebanon. Now that its forces have entered Lebanon, it has put the security of the entire Middle East in jeopardy. Now if U.S. imperialism brings its forces into the Persian Gulf under the pretext of ensuring its security, it is certain that none of the countries of the region will ever see peace again. We support the position that the hand of superpowers and foreign forces must be cut off from the Persian Gulf and concentrate all our efforts on stopping their military intervention. All the countries of the region must concentrate their efforts in this respect and to do this they should move toward justice and righteousness and stop their ridiculous political games. They

should end their dependence on the superpowers more and more each day so that nations can see peace and that the Islamic countries and Muslims can achieve independence and shed the bonds of slavery to the foreign superpowers and return to Islam's greatness and glory.

Paris Cites 'Discriminatory Measures' Against French

LD100943 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 10 Nov 83

[Text] Iran is retaliating in its own way to the delivery of the French Super Etendards to its Iraqi enemy. According to a French diplomat working in Tehran, the Iranian authorities have just taken a whole series of measures against French interests in Iran. They have notably demanded the closure of the French commercial representation in the Iranian capital; French banks and products are also reportedly due to be affected by discriminatory measures.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,537

LD091746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persia 1630 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,537 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. While offering congratulations on the auspicious birthday anniversary of His Great Emminence Imam Mohammad Baqer, peace be upon him, a summary of battle operations during the past 24 hours hereby are announced.

Yesterday, in the Val-Fajr IV operational sector, the combatants of Islam opened fire on positions, fortifications,and supply routes of the enemy and prevented activities of the Saddamist forces. The combatants of Islam continued consolidating their own positions. In addition, by continuous observation and by dispatching reconnaissance patrol groups, the combatants of Islam monitored enemy movements. Thanks to the fire of our forces on enemy positions in the Piranshahr, Hajj 'Umran and Sar Dasht operational theaters, several trenches and foxholes of the Saddamists and one of their engineering excavation vehicles were destroyed. Yesterday, our forces observed activities of the enemy's infantry troops in the region opposite Hajj 'Umran and by opening fire halted and neutalized the enemy activities.

Fire exchanges continued on the border fronts of Bakhtaran and Illam. Thanks to the fire of our combatants in the region opposite Qasr-e Shirin, a number of enemy infantry troops were either killed or wounded.

On the southern fronts, the forces of Islam fired on enemy positions, disrupting trench and canal digging activities and preventing the enemy from consolidating its positions. The fire exchange in the Zeyd region was more intense than the other southern fronts. The enemy's heavy artillery fire yesterday damaged houses in Abadan.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI Criticizes Nehzat-e Azadi

GF091422 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 27 Oct 83 p 1

[Article: "American Candidates"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Under the circumstances when the counterrevolutionary radios in unison with the Voice of America, the BCC, Radio Israel, and Voice of the Masses of Baghdad are screaming that there is no freedom in Iran, the bankrupt liberals at home are taking up the same theme by writing letters and distributing pamphlets about a seminar to "ensure freedom of elections," thus picking up the same chants as the United States, Britain, Israel, France, and other satans and are throwing wood in the oven that they have lit. It seems that the liberals know that the people will not cast any votes for them in the elections and they will be unable to bake their bread in the oven lit by America and its allies. This is precisely why they have resorted to poisonous propaganda in order to put the system in question and disrupt the elections.

It would be timely if these liberal gentlemen turn their heads and take a look at their "shining" past so that maybe they will realize why they are so incessant in their attempts to throw a spinner in the wheels of the revolution and maybe they will come to their senses. It may be worthwhile to remind the judicial authorities of these instances since they were so kind in dealing with these gentlemen — irrespective of all their treason against the revolution — that they are now demanding concessions!

Had the judiciary tried those such as Amir Entezam, who considered themselves responsible for espionage, then maybe the same people would not now dare unite their voices with those of the foreign radios and in a clever plot attempt to put the future elections in question. If the judiciary at the same time as arresting and trying the terrorist hypocrites had arrested and tried all those who called the hypocrites their children and protected them in every respect and would deal them justice first for being the center of corruption, then they would not use all the available means today from the tribune of the Majlis to such a rag as Kianuri's *PORSESH VA PASOKH* in an attempt to tamper with the history of the revolution and make faces at the blood of the martyrs of the nation or spread poison against the epics of the warriors of Islam behind the fronts. The leaders of Nehzat-e Azadi in a statement in 1981 at the height of the corruption-disseminating actions of the hypocrites and the 20 June calamity, to the hypocrites said: Mojahedin-e Khalq, you are the children of Nehzat-e Azadi.

Under the circumstances, when the leaders of the hypocrites, in the words of the imam, were not worthy of participation in the presidential elections for having boycotted the referendum on the Constitution — this price of the blood of the nation — Engineer Bazargan announced in a hurried manner: For the sake of unity and for preservation of the rights of the minorities, I hope that Mr Mas'ud Rajavi, who is the example of a very active faction of our faithful youth, can manage to enter the Majlis and be able to sincerely cooperate with all the well-meaning groups and serve the Lord and the masses.

The United States, which is still dreaming of returning to Iran, has selected a number of elements for Iran's Majlis and the government in these dreams and naturally, no group is more to the American taste than the liberals. It is hard to believe that the United States has still not reached the conclusion that the liberals no longer have any chance of capturing the popular vote. As a result, they have decided that the solution is to put the elections into question. This is because a Majlis without the elements favored by the United States is questionable! This is a job that the liberals can carry out very well. They believe that a Majlis without them is questionable. This is the philosophy behind the unity of the voices of the liberals and foreign radios.

It is unfortunate that the liberals have still not realized that they cannot obtain any position in Iran through political games. The Tudeh'is had started the same game around 2 years ago via Kianuri's *PORSESH VA PASOKH* and they did not get very far. The Tudeh'is were the candidates of the Soviet Union and the liberals are American candidates. This is why their publications are so widely reproduced and distributed in American cities. The difference is maybe that the Tudeh'is knew what they were doing and the liberals don't. Let us hope to God that this is so.

Radio Iran: Bazargan Opens New Office

GF091821 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] After an attack by a group of Islamic Republic hoods on the office of the Nehzat-e Azadi on (Takht-e Tabus) Street in Tehran,Engineer Mehdi Bazargan has found the opportunity to set up another political office to continue the activities of the Nehzat-e Azadi.

Nationalist elements report from Tehran that the new party office officially started working yesterday, and the first statement issued by Nehzat-e Azadi since the recent incidents was published criticizing a group within the government.

Eng Mehdi Bazargan and his henchmen, through supporting the clerical rule and insisting on the continuation of the Islamic Republic, are trying to attract the attention of Ruhollah Khomeyni with a series of social, religious, and shari'a reforms and to convince Jamaran that the Nehzat-e Azadi Party is the only hope for the rule of Khomeyni. It is being said in Tehran that Eng Mehdi Bazargan, in cooperation with a group closer to Khomeyni, is trying to replace the government of Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, which has been accused of incompetence and political indiscretion. During the last brief speech by Mehdi Bazargan in the Majlis, one of the deputies strongly attacked him.

Meanwhile, to save the Musavi government and to prevent an increase in the influence of Nehzat-e Azadi, the group of followers of the imam's line has rejected the censure motion against Interior Minister Nateq-Nuri and has given him a vote of confidence.

National Resistance Council Announces Plan

NC091346 Paris AFP in English 1338 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Paris, Nov 9 (AFP) — Leftist opponents of the Iranian regime in exile here today announced a plan granting autonomy to Iran's Kurdish population.

Mas'ud Rajavi, president of the Iranian National Resistance Council and head of the leftist people's Mojahedin group, revealed the project today, saying it was intended for a "liberated Iran that is to succeed (Islamic leader Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeyni."

Under the plan, the central government would remain in charge of foreign policy, defense, foreign trade, monetary and financial matters, planning, and natural resources. KURDs would be allowed to elect a legislative council to establish territorial laws. They would also be in charge of maintaining territorial security.

Approving the project were all parties and personalities belonging to the National Resistance Council, notably former Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the Iranian Kordestan Democratic Party, the People's Mojahedin and the Iranian National Democratic Front.

Two Drug Smugglers Executed in Mashhad

LD091202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, in accordance with a verdict reached by Mashhad's Islamic Revolution Court, upheld by the Islamic Revolution Supreme Court, two professional smugglers with past records in drug trafficking —(Golzar Delakeh) and (Mohammad Hoseyn Kiani)— were sentenced to death and executed for the crime of intense activities in buying and peddling narcotics. During their last transaction, seven 20-kg sacks [as heard] were involved.

Clandestine Radios Report on Executions

Radio Iran: Journalists

GF091635 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] According to reports received from Tehran, Rahwar Akefi, first chief editor of *KEYHAN* after the takeover by the Khomeyni regime along with four other journalists, whose identities have not been disclosed as yet, have been executed in Evin Prison by the hangmen of the Islamic Regime. Earlier, two other Iranian journalists, ('Ali Askar Amirani), editor and distingushed person connected with the *KHANDANIHA* weekly, and (Simon Farzanian), writer and translator of publications and news reports, were stood against the wall without the benefit of trial and shot

Free Voice of Iran: Mullahs

GF091847 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 9 Nov 83

[Text] According to a report by the correspondent of the Free Voice of Iran, another element of the Khomeyni regime in Mahabad met the consequences of his criminal actions and was summarily executed by the armed combatants. The reports added that (Mullah Khaled Azizi), who had a direct hand in the detention, torture and execution of the combatants and the people of Kordestan, and who with the close cooperation of the guards of the region, had started inquiries into identifying opponents, met the result of his disgraceful actions and was summarily executed by the combatants. As our dear listeners know, some time ago (Mullah Haider Fahim), who also used to encourage the crimes of the Khomeyni elements, was kidnapped by armed combatants and after trial was summarily executed along with his four guards.

Montazeri Cited on Sunni Clergy Training

GF071757 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] According to our correspondent, Mullah Shar'i, who visited Sistan va Baluchestan Province at the head of a delegation for the suppression of some antiregime Sunni clergymen, met Montazeri in Qom today and said: On the basis of the [words indistinct] the Sunni clergymen can continue their studies within the country and there will be no need for them to leave the country.

While endorsing this plan, Mullah Montazeri announced today that the Qom seminary will henceforth undertake the training of the Sunni clergymen and they will not be allowed to leave the country. Hence, the Sunni clergymen will now be forced to continue their theological studies in the Shi'ite seminary of Qom.

MKO Describes Peshmerga Victories in Kordestan

GF081748 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] According to the Free Voice of Iran correspondent from Paris, the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization issued a communique announcing that 31 elements of the repressive Khomeyni regime, including two commanders of the revolution guards, have been killed in northern Kordestan. In the aggressive mining operations by the peshmergas of the Mojahedin-e Khalq, which were carried out during the last 2 weeks in the Bukan-Mahabad axes, the environs of the (Gharekand) base, Mahabad, Sar Dasht, the (Zamziran) heights in northern Kordestan, the (Hawatin Birdush) highway, 31 Khomeyni guards, including the commander of the (Gharekand) base and the deputy commander of the (Khoshdelan) base in northern Kordestan, were killed.

During these operations, one personnel carrier, one fuel bunker, and one commander's jeep were destroyed and some Khomeyni guards were wounded. In these clashes, no losses were sustained by the Mojahedin-e Khalq peshmerga units.

9 November Statement

GF091852 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] According to a report by the correspondent of the Free Voice of Iran, the following statement was issued today by the office of the Mojahed-e Khalq Organization [MKO]: Following the fierce attacks by the Kurdish peshmerga on the Khomeyni forces in Sar Dasht, 150 guards were killed and wounded last night. The MKO statement adds that on Sunday evening, the Mojahed-e Khalq peshmerga and the peshmerga of the Kordestan Democrat Party of Iran launched a joint wide-scale attack on the Khomeyni regime forces on the Nuri heights in the Sar Dasht region. They destroyed five posts of the Khomeyni regime with the help of RPG-7's, machineguns, and hand-grenades. An hour after this attack, which was launched from four sides, most of the strongholds and positions of the Khomeyni forces fell to the control of the invading force and a large number of arms, including of RPG-7's and automatic weapons, fell into the hands of the Kurdish peshmerga and the Mojahed and were transferred behind the fighting line. The overrun posts remained in the control of the Kurdish peshmerga until 1600 the next day, that is, Monday of the current week. During these operations,more than 150 of the Khomeyni elements were killed or wounded.

NVOI Decries 'Discrimmination' Against Kurds

TA091533 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Unattributed commentary: "They Sow Wind and Reap Storms"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: In the final analysis of crimes by an Islamic Government that supports the arrogant and vitiates the gains of the Iranian nation's revolution, its inhuman acts along the lines of South Africa's racists in the tragic-stricken land of Kordestan deserve particular attention. For about 4 years now, by resorting to arms and force, by massacring the freedom-loving Kurdish people, and by shedding the blood of these patriotic people, the Islamic Government has been trying to bring them to their knees. In addition to imposing a war of fratricide, which has failed to achieve the desired results for the racist leaders of the Islamic Government, from the economic and production perspectives also, this government has subjected the people of Kordestan to the most severe pressures and is pursuing an extremely unjust policy of discrimination against this region's people.

Yes, the rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran who have imposed a wave of medieval terror and repression throughout our homeland, in addition to a filthy war of fratricide in Kordestan, have also embarked on massacring the patriotic Kurdish people with the utmost cruelty to avoid implementing their just and legitimate demands with respect to recognition of the Kurds' national rights. In some circles, they are justifiably alluding to the point that in the war against the Kurdish people, the Shi'ite fanatacism of the Islamic Government leaders is increasing by two-fold their cruelty toward the Kurds who are of the Sunni faith.

The Islamic Republic's military officials take pleasure from bloodshed in Kordestan, from massacring the Kurdish brothers, and from crushing Kurdish children under the wheels of U.S. tanks, and pride themselves on achieving brilliant victories in Kordestan. However, these gentlemen are little aware that the imaginary victory they entertain in their minds is only a mirage; it is something they will never attain. As long as the Kurdish people exist, and as long as the legitimate rights of these people regarding self-government within the framework of Iran's territorial integrity is not achieved, the struggles of the Kurdish people will continue. The Kurdish people cannot be prevented from continuing their just struggle by economic pressures, by war and fratricide, by genocide, or by implementing a racist policy. Rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran are sowing wind and reaping storms.

Agriculture Minister Departs for Rome Meeting

GF081719 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 8, IRNA — Acting head of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development Mr. Tabataba'i left here for Rome today in order to participate in the 22nd session of the meeting of Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations.

In an interview with IRNA minutes before his departure from Tehran Tabataba'i said that the Iranian delegation to the FAO meet would portray the destructive role of the imposed war upon agricultural production in Iran and would also delineate projects of the Islamic Republic for improving agricultural production in a five-year development plan. He also added that in response to a proposal by the secretary general of the Islamic Conference, during the session the agriculture ministers from Muslim states will have seperate sessions of their own. He said in the meetings of the ministers of Muslim states, the Islamic Republic will propose improved exchange of agricultural produce between the Muslim states as a means to eliminate dependence on the superpowers for their needs.

Reportage on Officials' Meetings With SFRY Delegation

Foreign Affairs Ministry

LD052306 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Mr Dizdarevic, member of the Bosnia-Hercegovina League of Communists Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the Federal Social Council for International Relations, who is visiting Tehran, met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Velayati this evening. He met this morning with Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Azizi at the ministry; they discussed mutual relations.

Prime Minister

LD081038 Tehran IRNA in English 0911 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov 8 IRNA — The visiting chairman of the Federal Council for Foreign Relations and member of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina Nijaz Dizarevic called on Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi Monday evening.

During the meeting Dizdarevic presented the prime minister a message from the Yugoslav leadership council. He also said that we (Yugoslavians) consider the Islamic revolution an important development and a great movement which rightly hit the United States. He said that the impact of the Islamic revolution could be felt in the Third World and the countries of the non-aligned movement.

Prime Minister Musavi in return said that Iran's ties with non-aligned members including Yugoslavia are based on the principles achieved by us during the years of continuous struggles. He said that Iran expected from the non-aligned countries to have ties on the basis of genuine principles of that movement.

Referring to the Iraqi imposed war the prime minister said that the war was to eradicate the root of invasion from the region and also block the way of domination of big powers in the region.

TANJUG Account

LD081315 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1019 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, 8 Nov (TANJUG) — Nijaz Dizdarevic, chairman of the Federal Social Council for International Relations, left Tehran today after 3 days of friendly and frank talks with representatives of the Iranian Government.

At the end of his official and friendly visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dizdarevic was received last night by Iranian Prime Minister, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. In a lengthy conversation, which was attended by Edvard Kljun, SFRY ambassador to Iran, and Dusan Litvinovic, head of the Department for the Near East and Northern Africa in the Federal Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, they discussed at length bilateral relations and current international topics, especially the situation in that area. Nijaz Dizdarevic conveyed a verbal message from the SFRY Presidency to President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Khamene'i. The message concerns cooperation between the two countries and sets out Yugoslavia's understanding of international relations, especially in that area. Dizdarevic conveyed to Prime Minister Musavi an invitation from Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council, to visit Yugoslavia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

Prime Minister Musavi asked Dizdarevic to convey to the SFRY Presidency and to Prime Minister Milka Planinc most cordial greetings from the Iranian leadership and also the Islamic republic of Iran's interest in further promoting its relations with Yugoslavia.

After both sides made a positive evaluation of the present development of economic relations, Prime Minister Musavi pointed out significant opportunities for the expansion of economic cooperation offered by the Iranian 5-year plan. He invited the Yugoslav economy to involve itself in the realization of this plan. More detailed talks on this point are expected to be held during

the forthcoming visit to Yugoslavia by Iranian Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Namazi. Possibilities for enriching Yugoslav-Iranian relations in general were discussed during the meeting. In this context, the Iranian side proposed the signing of an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation.

During talks with Iranian personalities, especially with Iranian Minister of Foreign affairs Velayati and his deputy Ahmad 'Azizi, the two sides carried out a detailed exchange of views on the international situation, on the activity of nonaligned countries following their seventh summit in New Delhi, and on focal points of crises, especially in the Near and Middle East, as well as on the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Nijaz Dizdarevic also had lengthy talks with Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani, general secretary of the Association of Militant Ulema of Tehran, and also with Majlis Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Dr Khadem. During the meeting with Khadem, reference was made especially to the need to develop cooperation between the Majlis (Iranian assembly) and the Yugoslav assembly. Both sides stressed the need to strengthen (?reciprocal) contacts between Yugoslavia and Iran, especially contacts between representatives of the two parliaments.

At Tehran airport the Yugoslav delegation was seen off by 'Azizi, first deputy minister of foreign affairs.

Montazeri, Musavi Discuss Economic Situation

GF091545 Tehran IRNA in English 1522 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Qom, Nov. 9, IRNA — Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, who received Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi and Commerce Minister Hassan Abedi Ja'fari here Tuesday, said that the government in its efforts to eliminate shortages and problems should seek cooperation of public and competent people.

Prime Minister Musavi while introducing the new minister of commerce to Ayatollah Montazeri reported on the economic situation of the country including promotion of private and public sector and production.

Ayatollah Montazeri praised sincere efforts of the government in overcoming problems and added that the people were well aware of problems caused by the three-year-old Iraqi imposed war, economic sanctions imposed by superpowers and the escalating rate of world inflation, and have tolerated all these problems.

Ayatollah Montazeri further advised the government to take measures to increase incentives of farmers to remain in villages. To this end, he said rural areas should be provided with those services available in urban centres. He also stressed the need for strenghtening the private sector of the economy and added that on the basis of experience, in the absence of assistance of this sector, the government would be unable to meet needs of the people. The government should use the services of committed businessmen however, it should maintain its supervision so as to prevent any abuses, he said.

Regional Groups Depart for Battlefronts

Tabriz Students

GF050710 Tabriz Domestic Service in Azeri 1530 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] On the occasion of students day, on 12 Aban [1 November] a group of high school students from Sarab were sent to the fronts of right against wrong in the presence of the always present-on-the-scene people of this city, the Friday imam, and the clergy.

Shiraz Returnees

GF051856 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Coinciding with the attacks by the Islamic combatants on the Saddamist aggressors, a group of enthusiastic young men from Boyer Ahmad va Kohkiluyeh Province headed for the war fronts.

According to the report by the Central News Unit, this morning a large number of young men, defenders of their rights, of the Boyer Ahmad District, left for the war fronts of right against wrong. They left for the fronts to aid the Islamic combatants chanting revolutionary slogans and passed in front of the mobilization headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. The majority of them had been to the war fronts several times before in support of the Islamic fighters.